made during the year to meet urgent emergent demand. For the years 2005-06 to 2007-08, allocations have been maintained at the level of 2004-05, including additional allocations made during that year. Allocations for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Qtrs. of 2008-09 have also been maintained at the level of 2005-06. This Ministry has not received any representations from Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh for increasing the quota of PDS SKO during the current year. Details of PDS SKO increasing the quota of PDS SKO during the current year. Details of PDS SKO allocation/upliftment for Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh during the last three years is as under:

Year	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09 3rd Quarter	
	Madhya Pradesh	Chhattis-garh	Madhya	Chhattis-garh	Madhya	Chhattis-garh	Madhya	Chhattis-garh
PDS SKO allocated	488609	146938	488609	146938	488609	146938	366456	110203
Addl. SKO allocated	408 (floods)	—	622 (floods)	—	—	—	—	—

However, in view of requests received from various State Governments for increasing the SKO allocation, the Government of India commissioned the detailed study of kerosene demand in the country, through the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in December, 2004. NCAER submitted its report in October, 2005. NCAER has *Inter-alia* recommended restricting the supply of subsidized kerosene to BPL families only.

Further, in order to formulate a long-term pricing policy, the Government had constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister to examine different aspects of pricing and taxation of petroleum products with a view to stabilizing/rationalizing their prices. The Committee submitted its report on 17.2.2006. The Committee has *Inter-alia* recommended to restrict the subsidy on kerosene to BPL families only. The Government has accepted the recommendations of Dr. Rangarajan Committee Report and has decided "in principle" that subsidy on PDS kerosene be limited to BPL families only.

Demand for increasing ration quota for States

†52. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government has received any demand for increasing their quota of ration from various States;

(b) if so, the names of the States which made the demand and the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The commodity wise details of requests received and the action taken thereon are as follows:

Food grains: Requests have been received from the State Government/Union Territory, Administrations for increase/restoration of the monthly allocation of rice and wheat as per details at the Statement. (*See* below)

The Government has made the following allocations:

(i) Adhoc/additional allocation of 9,52,500 tons of wheat and 1,18,000 tons of rice have been allocated under Above Poverty Line (APL) category during the current year (upto December 2008) to various States/UTs, against the requests received from State/UTs.

(ii) Adhoc/additional allocations of 36000 tone of rice and 192000 tons of wheat at APL rate have been issued for festival season 2008 to various States.

(iii) The Government has made adhoc allocation of wheat of about 9 lakh tons for sale to retail consumers and 8.4 lakh tons of wheat for bulk consumers respectively to States/UT Government under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) for September to November 2008.

Sugar: In the recent months, the Government of Haryana requested this Department to increase their monthly levy quota from 2485 MTs to 3891 MTs on account of increase in BPL families. Their request was considered and they were informed that as the availability of levy sugar is limited, it is not possible to accept the demand of the Government of Haryana. No similar request from any other State Government has been received.

Kerosene: Allocation of PDS kerosene is made by the Government of India to the States/Union Territories (UTs) on a quarterly basis for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS). Further distribution within the State/UTs through their PDS network is the responsibility of the concerned State/UT. The scale of distribution of PDS SKO per card holder varies from State to State and is decided by the State Government/UTs.

Government of India allocates Kerosene to the States/UTs under the Public Distribution System (PDS) on historical basis for the purpose of cooking and illumination only. In accordance with the policy adopted by the Government of India in 2000, Kerosene (SKO) allocation for distribution under the PDS was reduced every year beginning 2001-02 till 2003-04,

taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each State/UT. While the initial allotment for 2004-05 was based on the criteria adopted hitherto, additional allocations were made during the year to meet urgent emergent demand. For the years 2005-06 to 2007-08, allocations have been maintained at the level of 2004-05, including additional allocations made during that year. Allocations for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Qtrs. of 2008-09 have also been maintained at the level of 2005-06.

In view of requests received from various State Government for increasing the SKO allocation, the Government of India commissioned the detailed study of kerosene demand in the country, through the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in December, 2004, NCAER submitted its report in October, 2005. NCAER has *Inter-alia* recommended restricting the supply of subsidized kerosene to BPL families only.

Further, in order to formulate a long-term pricing policy, the Government had constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister to examine different aspects of pricing and taxation of petroleum products with a view to stabilizing/rationalizing their prices. The Committee submitted its report on 17.02.2006 The Committee has *Inter-alia* recommended to restrict the subsidy on kerosene to BPL families only. The Government has accepted the recommendations of Dr. Rangarajan, Committee Report and has decided □in principle□ that subsidy on PDS kerosene be limited to BPL families only.

Statement

Details of the requests received from the states for increase in allocation—
Additional monthly quantity of Rice and Wheat demanded

(Quantity in Thousand Tons)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	Rice	Wheat
1	2	3	4
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.235	
2.	Andhra Pradesh	44.755	
3.	Assam	23.219	21.303
4.	Bihar	19.063	65.13
5.	Chhattisgarh	60.047	10
6.	Goa		0.999
7.	Haryana		13.301
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11.482	9
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	20	5
10.	Jharkhand		4.032

1	2	3	4
11.	Kerala	96.364	15
12.	Madhya Pradesh		119
13.	Karnataka	52.989	
14.	Maharashtra		249.098
15.	Manipur	0.461	
16.	Meghalaya		0.218
17.	Nagaland		4.627
18.	Orissa	64.142	16.407
19.	Punjab		69.318
20.	Rajasthan		100
21.	Sikkim		0.225
22.	Tamil Nadu	73.745	6.217
23.	Tripura	5.663	2.638
24.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.301	
25.	Pondicherry	2.353	
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0.67	5
27.	Uttarakhand	4.195	5.234
28.	West Bengal	195.024	
29.	Daman and Diu	0.04	
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands		2.4
31.	Chandigarh	33.75	33.75

Rise in prices of sugar

53. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of sugar had gone up in the months of July- August this year;

(b) if so, the details of the prices of sugar month-wise from May this year and reasons for the sudden rise in the prices;

(c) whether it is also a fact that sugar mills were responsible for the increase in prices of sugar; and